

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Avalon Canary Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side Crab Alley Neck Road

CITY, TOWN

Dominion

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Michael Pelczar, Jr.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

4318 Claggett Pineway

CITY, TOWN

University Park

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20782

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: TSP 68

Folio #: 467

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-203

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Avalon Canary Farm is located on the south-west side of Crab Alley Neck Road between Dominion and Marling Farms, overlooking Crab Alley Bay. The farm acquired this name in the 1940's, during the ownership of Michael Pelczar, Sr.

The early house on the Pelczar or Avalon Canary Farm consists of two principal sections, a two story, two bay frame building to the east and a story-and-a-half wing to the west. The house has been extensively renovated over the years, including an addition across the south facade of both sections and the west end of the wing.

The exterior of the two story house has been altered somewhat. The first story of the south facade has been incorporated into a long, low one story addition. The original door in the west bay now opens into the addition and the window opening in the east bay also survives in place. There are two 6/6 windows with modern sash on the second story and no dormer windows on the third story. The foundation is concealed from view; the exposed portion of the facade is covered with wood shingle siding. The eaves are boxed in and

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

trimmed with a complex bed mold. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The only opening in the east gable wall is a small vent in the upper gable, to the left of the flush brick chimney.

On the south facade an original door in the west bay of the first story has been changed to a 6/6 window, so that there are now two 6/6 windows on both the first and second story. The foundation is modern, the siding, cornice and roof match the south facade.

The wing covers the majority of the west gable wall. The only opening is a small four-light window in the center of the upper gable.

The wing has been extensively altered as well. The first story of the south facade now opens up into the modern one story addition and the south half of the roof has been raised to provide more room on the second story. On the north facade, there is a door in the east bay and three 6/6 windows to the west on the first story and two 6/6 pitched roof dormers on the second story.

The interior of the main house consists of a single room on the first floor with a fireplace centered on the east gable wall and an enclosed winder stair in the southeast corner, to the right of the fireplace. The

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

mantel in this room is a superb Federal surround. A crossetted, broken-field fascia with ogee/astragal backband frames the fireplace opening below vertically reeded side blocks and center block and an elaborately molded shelf with lozenge reeding. A door in the center of the west wall of this room opens into the wing. The architrave trim on the exterior face, visible from the wing, consists of a beaded fascia board with a cove/astragal backband. The architrave on the interior face is beaded and rabbeted with a steep ogee/astragal backband typical of the late Federal and Greek Revival periods.

The second floor of the main house has been completely renovated and now consists of a single large room. A small fireplace on the east gable wall is fitted with a Federal mantel. This mantel has an ogee/astragal backband framing the opening below plain sideblocks and a simple shelf with an ogee/astragal bedmold. In the northeast corner of the second story, an enclosed winder stair rises to the attic. A small closet between the stair and the chimney is fitted with a batten door with early painted graining on the interior face. From this closet it is possible to determine that the attic stairs are constructed with hand-headed machine nails and the plaster is applied to riven lathing nailed with

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

machine nails.

The roof is constructed of hewn and pit sawn common rafters secured at the ridge with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints and reinforced with collar beams half-dovetailed into each rafter pair and nailed with double-struck nails. Some wrought nails have been driven into the collars to hang things.

The interior of the west wing has been completely renovated. There are two rooms on each floor, with a modern stair rising against the west wall of the east room. Based on a series of photographs taken by the present owners during renovations in the early 1960's, it is possible to determine that the east section of the wing is constructed of hewn and pit-sawn log planks laid horizontally and tenoned into heavy corner posts.

Intermediate door posts still project from the interior walls on both the south and north facade, and several sample tenons and pegs were salvaged by the owners.

The log planks and corner posts are now concealed by modern materials. Access to a small crawl space in the roof is possible from the attic of the main house.

From here, it is possible to see the post-Civil War, circular-sawn weatherboard siding on the west gable of the main house and to determine that at least the

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

west part of the wing is probably original.

Cemetery

A small cemetery with Kirby family stones is located to the east of the house.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early house on the Avalon Canary Farm was constructed circa 1820. The two story, two bay form of the main house is relatively unusual for this area, as is the post-and-plank construction of the west part of the wing. Although more than 30 examples of this method of construction have been recorded in Queen Anne's County, this is only the third example of its use in a dwelling. The remaining examples consist primarily of meat houses and small farm buildings. Although the house has been extensively renovated, two handsome Federal mantels have survived as well as the original winder stairs and some of the original architrave trim.

It should be noted that this farm was a favored location for shipping local produce to Baltimore in the latter part of the 19th century. The produce was loaded onto small boats that transported the cargo out to larger sailing vessels offshore.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

QA-203

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

10/6/81

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

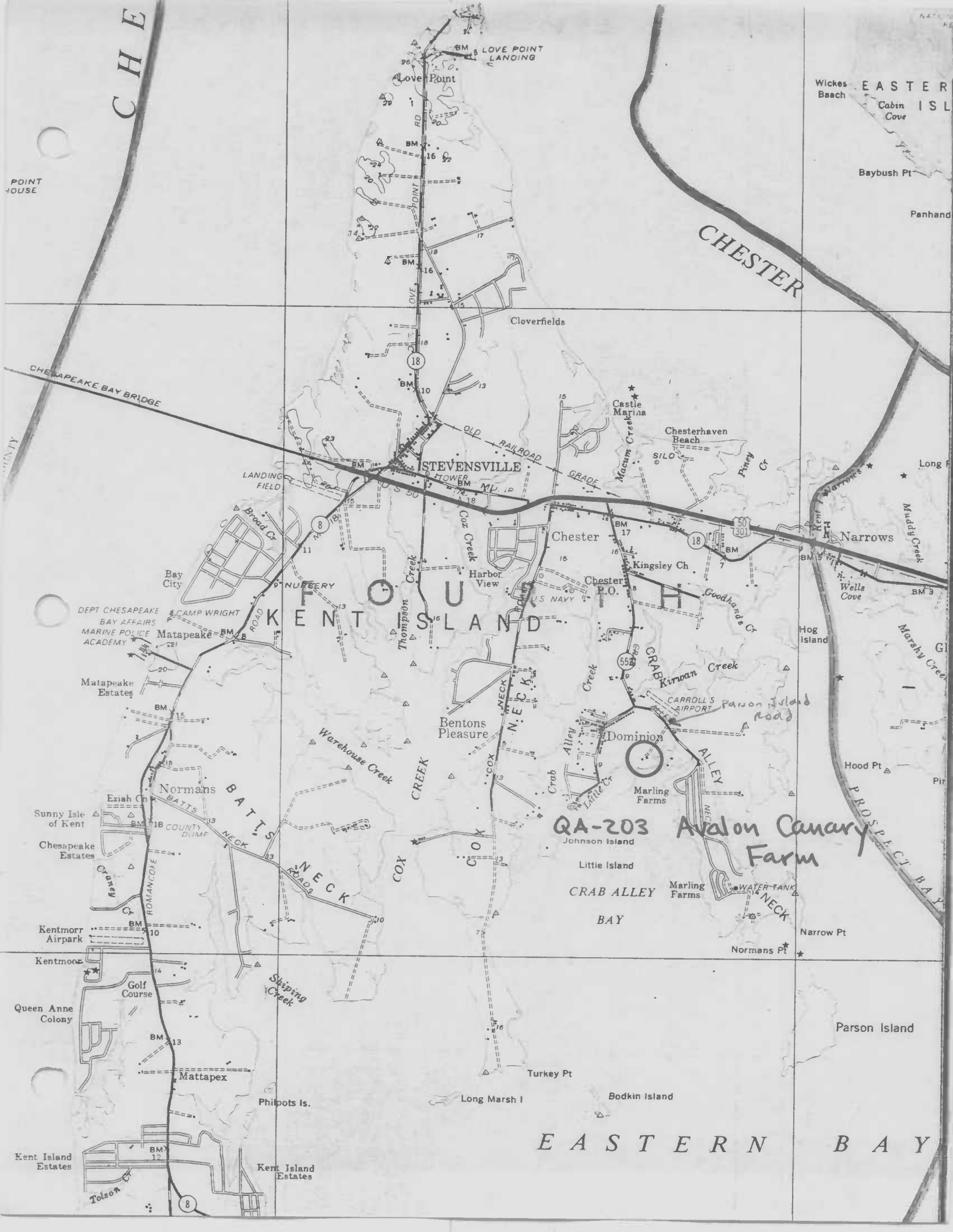
Maryland

Field Notebook QA-26; Recorded Aug. 6, 1981.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





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Avalon Canary Farm